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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**24 APRIL 2019**

(U) CALIFORNIA**(U) Sunnyvale – Driver ‘Deliberately’ Drives into Group of Pedestrians in Sunnyvale**

(U) Police in Sunnyvale are investigating a major injury collision that left multiple pedestrians injured. Authorities believe “a driver deliberately drove into a group of eight pedestrians” on El Camino Real. The driver is in custody and officials believe this was an isolated incident. The victims were taken to local hospitals to receive treatment for their injuries.

SOURCE: 23 April 2019, [SF Gate](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**(U) Arizona – Heavily Armed Men Escort Migrants across US Border, Surveillance Video Shows**

(U) Lukeville – Government video shows heavily armed men at the US-Mexico border escorting a migrant mother and son into the United States. Border Patrol officials advised this is an unusual event and expressed concern that will become a regular occurrence. After escorting the migrants, the armed escorts turned back across the border. The mother and child turned themselves into border agents.

SOURCE: 23 April 2019, [MSN News](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) Arizona – High School Student Arrested in Threat against Mosque**

(U) Phoenix – Authorities announced that a 15-year-old boy was arrested after another boy reported him saying he wanted to “blow up a Muslim church.” The two boys were attending school when the witness saw a plastic bag with several pounds of a “white powdery substance” in the boy’s possession. The substance was later tested and determined to be several pounds of the salt-like substance potassium nitrate which can be mixed with other chemicals to create a flash powder.

SOURCE: 23 April 2019, [AZ Central](#)

(U) District of Colombia – Embassies Targeted by Hackers with Bogus State Department Spreadsheet

(U) Washington – A multi-national cybersecurity firm warned that embassies in Europe have been on the receiving end of an ongoing hacking campaign with roots in Russia. The firm reported that a weaponized spreadsheet attached to emails with the subject line “Military Financing Program” bear the seal of the US State Department and claims to contain top secret information. Once opened, the malicious code allows attacker “full control” of the infected computer. Official representatives from the countries of Nepal, Guyana, Kenya, Italy, Liberia, Bermuda and Lebanon are among the intended targets.

SOURCE: 23 April 2019, [Washington Times](#)

(U) New York – US Charges American Engineer, Chinese Businessman with Stealing Trade Secrets

(U) Albany – US authorities have charged an American engineer and a Chinese businessman with economic espionage and conspiring to steal sophisticated turbine designs to benefit the government of China and their personal business interests. The indictment alleges the two suspects teamed up to acquire millions of dollars’ worth of General Electric’s aviation trade secrets. The Chinese Embassy in

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Washington did not immediately respond to the charges, though the Chinese government consistently denies that it engages in economic espionage.

SOURCE: 23 April 2019, [Washington Post](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Afghanistan – Heavy Fighting Flares between Taliban, Islamic State in Afghanistan**

(U) Kabul – Afghan Taliban insurgents are battling fighters loyal to ISIS over control of territory in eastern Afghanistan in some of the heaviest clashes over the past year between rival militants. The fighting erupted in two districts of the eastern Afghan border province of Nangarhar, when ISIS fighters attacked villages under Taliban control. About 500 families had fled from the fighting.

SOURCE: 24 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mali – Jihadists say Army Base Attack was Revenge for Village Massacre

(U) Dakar – Al qa'ida-linked militants in Mali claimed responsibility for an attack on a military base that killed at least 11 soldiers. The group stated it was revenge for the massacre of some 160 Fulani civilians last month. The assault on a base in west-central Mali was the latest in a series of deadly raids by heavily armed jihadists, who have stepped up their attacks in central Mali. The militants have tapped into tensions between semi-nomadic Fulani herders and farming communities across West Africa.

SOURCE: 23 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Saudi Arabia– 37 Prisoners Executed for Terrorism Crimes

(U) Riyadh – Saudi Arabia's Interior Ministry advised it has executed 37 people, all Saudi nationals, for terrorism-related crimes. A statement advised those executed hailed from various parts of Saudi Arabia and had adopted extremist ideologies and formed terrorist cells with the aim of spreading chaos and provoking sectarian strife. A day earlier, ISIS carried out an attack on a Saudi security building.

SOURCE: 23 April 2019, [ABC News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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